

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

5. A method for producing [the] a protein [of claim 4,] encoded by a DNA selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a DNA encoding a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4;
- (b) a DNA comprising the coding region of the base sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3;

(c) a DNA encoding a mutant protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 wherein one or more amino acids are substituted, deleted, inserted, and/or added, said mutant protein being a functional equivalent to the protein consisting of the amino acid sequences described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and

(d) a DNA hybridizing to the DNA consisting of the base sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3, and encoding a protein that is a functional equivalent of the protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4,

which comprises the steps of:

culturing the host cells of claim 3, and

recovering the expressed protein from said host cells or from the culture supernatant thereof.

10. A compound that binds to [the] a protein [of claim 4,] encoded by a DNA selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a DNA encoding a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4;
- (b) a DNA comprising the coding region of the base sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3;

(c) a DNA encoding a mutant protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 wherein one or more amino acids are substituted, deleted, inserted, and/or added, said mutant protein being a functional equivalent to the protein consisting of the amino acid sequences described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and

(d) a DNA hybridizing to the DNA consisting of the base sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3, and encoding a protein that is a functional equivalent of the protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4,
wherein said compound can be isolated using the method of claim 9.